

# ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

## *Outdoor Liquid Container Storage*

**A**ccidental releases of liquids and fluids from above ground storage tanks, drums, and dumpsters present the potential for contaminating stormwater with many different pollutants. Tanks may store many potential stormwater runoff pollutants, such as gasoline, aviation fuel, diesel fuel, kerosene, oils, greases, lubricants, and other distilled, blended, and refined products derived from crude petroleum. Materials spilled, leaked, or lost from storage tanks may accumulate in soils or on other surfaces and be carried away by stormwater runoff. The following BMPs are recommended to remove or reduce the potential of stormwater contamination:

- ◆ For permanently installed tank storage systems, use curbs or dikes to contain spills and leaks. The curbing should be of adequate height to contain a volume equal to the volume of the largest single storage tank plus rainfall if the storage area is uncovered. A good approximation of the needed volume would be 110% of the largest storage tank, but additional volume may be required depending on the potential quantity of rainfall at the site.
- ◆ Cover or move tanks inside so stormwater does not fill the secondary containment.
- ◆ The floor area enclosed by the curbing needs to be covered with an impervious surface and sealed to prevent spills from contaminating groundwater.
- ◆ Have clean-up materials easily accessible.



- ◆ Install and maintain an oil/water separator for treating stormwater that is discharged from secondary containment.
- ◆ Follow procedures to check for contamination prior to discharging from secondary containment.
- ◆ Regularly inspect liquid containers for cracks, corrosion, or leaky seams.
- ◆ Install an overfill protection system on the storage tank to minimize the risk of spilling liquids during transfer and loading.
- ◆ Train employees in operating procedures and label valves and piping to reduce human error.
- ◆ Install bollards around the tanks and piping to prevent damage from forklifts or vehicles.
- ◆ Maintain an Emergency Spill Response and Cleanup Plan.
- ◆ If a facility has a total aboveground oil storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons (in 55 gallon or larger containers) that could potentially spill to navigable waters of the Commonwealth, then a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan (40 CFR 112) would be required.